ABSTRACT

Improved color image display accuracy can be achieved across a computer network by obtaining information characterizing the color response of display devices associated with a client residing on the computer network and using the information to modify color images delivered to the client. The information includes a blackpoint estimate for the display devices. The invention, in one embodiment, makes use of dark elements in the form of non-rectangular shapes such as numerals, letters, and the like to aid in determination of the blackpoint estimate. In particular, rows or columns of complex shapes with varying gray values can be displayed against a black background. The use of complex shapes to determine the blackpoint can help resolve minor differences in R, G, and B that can cause poor gray balance. Instead of patches or bars, which may be generally rectangular, more complex shapes can be used to aid the human eye in resolving such differences. The information can be obtained, for example, by guiding the client through a color profiling process that profiles the color response of the display device. For example, such guidance may take the form of a series of instructional web pages that are delivered to the client. The web pages can be made interactive to enable collection of color characterization data from the client.